

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00666 100847Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 112964

R 100730Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2275
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T TRIPOLI 0666

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,UR, EG, LY

SUBJECT: SOVIET ARMS SALES TO LIBYA

REF: TEHRAN 5351

1. WE BELIEVE HERE THAT IT IS QADHAFI'S INTENTION TO TURN OVER TO EGYPT AT SOME POINT, IN WHOLE OR PART, THE SOVIET ARMS HE IS BUYING. QADHAFI SEEMS TO BE BETTING THAT EGYPT WILL BE FORCED SOONER OR LATER TO GO OFF THE NEGOTIATING TRACK, AND THAT WAR IS INEVITABLE. IN THE MEANTIME, HE MAY HOPE THAT HE CAN USE SOVIET ARMS SUPPLIES TO GIVE HIM SOME INFLUENCE OVER EGYPTIAN POLICIES, AND A VOICE IN ARAB COUNCILS. GIVEN HIS FIXATION ON UNITY, HE MAY EVEN CONTEMPLATE BRINGING THE ARMS AS A DOWRY IN A FUTURE UNION WITH EGYPT.

2. IN GENERAL, LIBYAN MOTIVES DO NOT SEEM TO US TO BE PARTICULARLY MYSTERIOUS, AND IT SEEMS TO US THAT SOVIET PURPOSES IN STRENGTHENING THE HAND OF THE MOST IRRESPONSIBLE LEADER IN THE AREA ARE THE GREAT QUESTION MARK.
STEIN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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